Sale of fake KVP certificates

2587. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry into the complaint on sale of fake K.V.P. certificates by a registered agent of Gobinda Khatick Road Post Office of Kolkata has been made;

(b) if so, what are the outcomes; and

(c) how Government are going to compensate the public who have been cheated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On enquiry it was found that 263 Nos. of Kisan Vikas Patras (KVPs), each of Rs. 10,000/- denomination, were parallel KVPs assigned identical registration number of the KVPs genuinely issued to the customers from Gobinda Khatick Road Post Office. The enquiry also revealed that genuine certificates having Sl. No. 263 Nos. of fake KVPs of denomination of Rs. 10,000/- were actually supplied from CSD Kolkata to Balurghat HO (181 Nos.) and Beleghat HO (82 Nos.) alongwith other certificates. Thus, these 263 KVPs purportedly issued from Gobinda Khatick Road Post Office were counterfeit certificates having the same Sl. No. as of the original certificates. One such certificate was sent to the Government Examiner of Questioned Document (GEQD) for seeking opinion as to its genuineness.

(c) The KVPs in question purportedly issued from G.K. Road Post Office are forged and fake and were neither printed from the Indian Security Press, Nasik Road, Maharashtra nor issued from the counter of the Post Office. As such, the claims are not entertainable.

Levies on telecom sector

2588. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the various levies on the telecom sector;

(b) whether such levies stand as a great hurdle and impediment for India to attain global benchmarks of performance; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to scale down taxes in the current Budget?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The various levies on the Telecom Sector *inter-alia* are Licence Fee (Inclusive of Universal Service levy), Spectrum usage charges, Customs duty, Excise duties, Service tax, Sales tax, etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Hon'ble Finance Minister has proposed that the Department of Telecommunications constitute a Committee to study the present structure of levies on telecom industry.

Cellular infrastructure in rural areas of Orissa

2589. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DoT has short-listed 21 companies for setting up massive cellular infrastructure in rural areas with the support from the USO Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of rural segments in Orissa which would be covered under this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) In addition to the existing Basic Services Operators (BSO), Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) Provides and Unified Access Services Licensees (UASL), who are automatically entitled for setting up passive cellular infrastructure, 22 Infrastructure Provides Category-I (IP-Is) registered with Department of Telecommunications were also shortlisted for setting up passive cellular infrastructure in rural areas with the support from USO Fund on the basis of Expression of Interest (EoI).